



NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

Official Publication of The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina



Volume 134 Number 1

Oxford, North Carolina

January/February 2009

2009 officers take their stations

Rice comes Home to take office

By Ric Carter

OXFORD — It was a big homecoming and an extraordinary graduation when Masonic Home for Children alumnus Dan C. Rice was installed North Carolina's 156th grand master of the Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons here on November 22. Masons and alums gathered in the Chapel at the Masonic Home to celebrate the occasion and send their friend and brother on his way.

While he may have first arrived on the campus as a frightened nine-year-old, it was a successful businessman and a Mason who has reached the penultimate office of the Craft who strode to the altar that day to take his oath as grand master. He is the first graduate of the Home to become grand master.

Rice's line journey began when he was appointed grand steward by William G. Mathis shortly after he was elected grand master in 2000. Mathis, as installing officer, was there again to assist his appointee in beginning the final act of his progression through the Grand Lodge line. It was Mathis who administered the oath of office to each of the men who will serve in 2009.

Prince Hall Grand Master Milton F. "Toby" Fitch Jr. was installing chaplain. Don Sizemore and Tommy Jones were installing marshals. Don Kehler was installing secretary.

see INSTALLATION, page 4



Debbie-Claire Rice led the Pledge of Allegiance at the installation ceremony.



Dan C. Rice

Rice becomes grand master

On November 22, 2008, Dan C. Rice became the 156th grand master of the Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina. Here, he introduces himself.

I was born in Warren, Ohio, February 7, 1950. I was the third of four children born to Alvie Rice and Mabel McBee.

In 1957 my dad deserted my mother and the four Rice children in Greenville, Indiana, and he disappeared. My mother moved back to her people in Mitchell County, North Carolina. She died unexpectedly less than a year later. Bakersville Lodge 357 sponsored all four of the Rice children to go to Oxford Orphanage.

We arrived at Oxford Orphanage on March 5, 1959. I stayed there until 1968 when I graduated from the Orphanage high school. The records of my behavior while at Oxford are now protected by HIPPA Rules, so I guess I am safe.

see RICE, page 4



Grand Secretary Walt Clapp, right, makes plans with Installing Marshals Tommy Jones and Don Sizemore.



Past Grand Master Bill Mathis, who appointed GM Rice to the GL line, was installing officer.

New stewards point to the future

The Grand Lodge gets two new grand stewards this year, due to the resignation of Grand Steward James L. Medlin. Dan Rice, the new grand master, appointed Bryant D. Webster. Then Grand Master Dave Cash, in consultation with Rice, appointed A. Gene Cobb to fill the vacated seat. They are the newest additions to the Grand Lodge line, the progressive officer chairs that mark the path to becoming grand master.

Bryant Deleron Webster was born to Deleron and Mary Webster October 8, 1969. He was raised on a small farm in Durham County. He double majored in English and political science at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and graduated with honors from the UNC Law School in 1994.

Webster married Janet Lee Baldwin in 1997. They currently make their home in Asheville with their seven-year-old daughter Amy.

Webster practices law with the firm of Stone and Christy in Black Mountain. He is a member of Biltmore Baptist Church



Bryant D. Webster



A. Gene Cobb Jr.

ing financial problems. He is currently chairman of the Grand Lodge Code Commission.

Webster enjoys his mountain outdoors and listening to bluegrass music. His hobbies include reading, exercise, yard work, and managing a small herd of cattle he keeps on his farm.

see STEWARDS, page 4

THE BOTTOM LINE



Masonic charity

By Dan C. Rice
Grand Master

My goal as grand master is to make every North Carolina Mason aware of the charitable obligations that each brother assumes when he becomes a

Mason. It is a very simple program designed to raise the awareness of the charitable work of other Masons, lodges, and districts in North Carolina.

Masons are givers — not takers. Builders, not demolishers. This is my personal observation from the Orphanage, a place many of you may never be able to reach in your hearts and minds. You may not be even be able to understand. My years as a student at Oxford Orphanage have allowed me to stand back and watch the Masons for almost 50 years.

I know that there are good men who are Masons. There are some not so good men who carry dues cards. My assessment is that there is a much higher percentage of good men in Masonry than in any other organization that I know of. From an Oxford Orphanage alumnus' viewpoint, the Masons are giants among all other men.

The Masons who visited the Orphanage while I was a student there were actual targets for us orphans. We preyed upon them like they were lambs. They came to the Orphanage with a huge soft spot in their hearts for us. The Orphanage children became their tour guides, and we showed them around the campus.

Our goal was to find a way to get some of their money out of their pockets and into ours. Usually, we managed to get a few dollars each week from some unsuspecting Mason. In the early 1960s, a dollar was a huge amount of money. You need to remember that a Coke or a candy bar was a nickel, and there was actually penny candy such as Mary Janes and Kits.

In a quiet moment several years ago, in my mind's eye, I was replaying my life as a student at Oxford Orphanage, and it occurred to me that we had never once fooled any of the Masons. They had simply wanted to help us out of love. They had been on to us the whole time. Yet they played along. We thought we had cleverly hustled them. It is amazing how the realizations of life's truths slowly come to us over the years.

From a very early age I saw Masonry in action. I saw good men give of their resources to help other people's orphaned children. They gave unselfishly and enthusiastically. They gave out of love, and they did not complain or make excuses not to give. They gave with a smile, and it seemed to make them happy to be able to give to others. That is what moved me to want to be like them.

Several years ago, a man I was talking to about a fund-raising task mentioned that everyone had to learn to give to others. He said that it was unnatural and counter-instinctive to want to hand over hard earned money or resources to someone else. He said that your mind could and would always find reasons to keep everything for yourself. He said that all it took was for one person being vocal in a negative way to kill the spirit of giving for the whole group. These people he classified as discouragers and said

that they exist in every group. On a personal note, every time that I have tried to do something really good for others, someone or something will rise up and try to stop me from getting it done. It seems to me that the evil forces in this world use good people to stop good things from being done.

North Carolina Masons have two absolutely great homes. One is for needy children and one is for older adults that need either physical assistance or financial help. Both of these facilities need the support and prayers of every NC Mason. God's work is being done at both places in a very special way. Do they have issues and problems? Sure they do, and so do all of us. Can you imagine a home with almost a 100 children of all ages without any problems? What about caring for 275 elderly folks who have varying degrees of need, both physical and financial? Are they trouble free? Absolutely not! But they are doing God's work in a big way, and they certainly need and deserve our prayers and support. Please do not allow yourself to fall prey to being a discourager. Instead, choose to be an encourager. Offer your support and help making these two great homes even better.

When each of us became a Mason, we assumed the responsibility of helping others in need. My hope is that we can all learn to give with enthusiasm and with love to those less fortunate. There are so many people hurting in today's world that we have no trouble finding ways of helping others daily. One of the secrets of Masonry is that when a brother does help others, he soon forgets his own problems and is better able to live his life with a smile and find true happiness.

Freemasonry and Generation X

By Michael A. Moxley

Both the Scottish Rite and the Shrine in Indianapolis have spent a lot of time analyzing membership trends. Both have found that the average age of the Masons joining these bodies is about 45-48 years old. This statistic has remained relatively unchanged for nearly 30 years.

Both also found that, at the time he joined, the average candidate had been a Mason for an average of 5-8 years. Age 40 then becomes a key marketing demographic for the fraternity as this is the prime time for recruiting candidates.

The World War II generation joined the fraternity in record numbers and provided most of the active volunteers and leaders of Masonry for the last 50 years. The next generation, the Baby Boomers, did not join in significant numbers and thus began the slow decline in overall membership that has continued to this day.

Today, we have more members over 80 than we do under 40. In 2006, the first members of Generation X will turn 40. If Masonry is to capture the interest and involvement of Generation X, now is the time to get started.

Definition of Insanity: Doing the same thing over and over again expecting different results. If we rely on the same membership plans and programs that were so ineffective in attracting the Baby Boomers, then we will surely fail.

Sociologists have done a lot of research and

found out that Generation X is very different from their predecessors, the Baby Boomers. They are better informed and better educated than any previous generation. They are comfortable with technology and use it as part of their everyday activities.

While they are optimistic, Generation Xers tend to critically evaluate information given to them. They are less interested in material wealth, but place a high value on emotional as well as financial security.

Using the Internet as a research tool, the Generation Xers will likely arrive at lodge already knowing more about certain aspects of the fraternity than many of our members do. They will expect the lodge to use technology and the Internet to communicate with its members. They are more likely to be interested in video games than traditional card games.

While there is a lot that we do not know about how to interest Generation X in Freemasonry, this much is certain: Generation X will determine the future of Freemasonry.

Freemasonry needs to learn how to attract new members. The future of our fraternity depends on it. Good men will always seek Masonic light, but it is up to us to illuminate the pathway to the door of the lodge.

Michael A. Moxley is co-editor of the *Indiana Freemason*.



Ric Carter photo

Grand Master David Cash, GS Award winner Max Smith, and Grand Secretary Walt Clapp.

Excelsior's Smith named NC's top secretary

By Ric Carter

RALEIGH — George Max Smith of Excelsior 261 in Charlotte is the 2008 recipient of the Harris-Dudley Grand Secretary's Award. The honor was announced by Grand Secretary T. Walton Clapp III at Annual Communication September 19.

Grand Secretary Clapp said, "While Max has not served in the secretary's chair as long as some of our recipients, he has long been one of our 'go to' guys in Charlotte. We never ask anything of him that does not get done quickly and well. He's just one of the best. His lodge work is immaculate."

The Harris-Dudley Grand Secretary's Award is presented each year to a lodge secretary who has demonstrated extraordinary skills and dedication to Masonry generally, but more especially to his lodge. The best secretaries have a number of skills — they know how to take care of details, they know how to help others

lead without wanting to steal the spotlight, they follow the rules without being slaves to them, they are enablers for the best instincts in their lodges.

Only the very best of secretaries is so honored. The choice is not made by voting or nomination, but from the acclamation of those dealing with the lodges and their paperwork. While lodge masters govern the course of lodges, lodges depend on effective secretaries to maintain a continuity across administrations. Smith's award reads that it is given, "[f]or his years of dedication to the principles of Brotherly Love; for his exemplification of leadership, rather than self-interest; for his years of skilled and tireless labors in service to the Brothers of his lodge; and for his promotion of the Craft by his personal example." It is named for Past Grand Secretaries Charlie Harris who served 1960-1975 and Pete Dudley who held office 1975-1997.

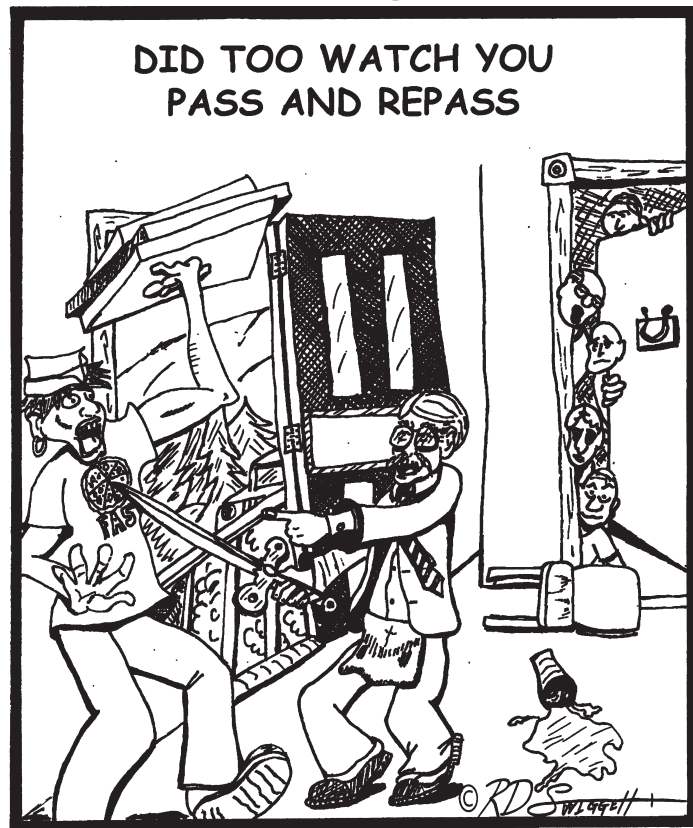
Board of Custodians update

In accordance with the recently approved revision to Code Regulation 29.9-5 effective January 1, 2009, the Board of Custodians has decided to require only one School of Instruction per year during the period that the five-hour mandatory Lecture Service is being required. Odd numbered lodges are required to have their five-hour Lecture Service in 2009. Even numbered lodges were lectured in 2008.

The Board also decided to require the cycle of the five-hour Lecture Services to continue through 2011. That means all even numbered lodges will be required to have their next five-hour service in 2010. Odd numbered lodges will be required to have their second required service during 2011.

The reinstated Lecture Service rules and guidelines may be found on the Grand Lodge website at <<http://grandlodge-nc.org/cl/Rules%20Lecture%20Service-2009.pdf>> and <<http://grandlodge-nc.org/cl/CL%20Booklet%202009.pdf>> or obtained through the secretary of the Board of Custodians, Mack Sigmon, P. O. Box 721, Newton, NC 28658.

Masonic doodling



By Dale Swiggett ©

Smith gives Grand Lodge Montfort bank note

By Ric Carter

RALEIGH — Last summer, I got a late night email from Rick Smith, an old friend and Masonic sparkplug in Mount Pilot. He's been there for an age helping in whatever way he can — from slogging pork and charcoal to teaching in Wilkerson College.

Rick had been surfing the net late that night and stumbled across a colonial banknote that bore Joseph Montfort's signature. Montfort was North Carolina's treasurer before the Revolution. The Grand Lodge of England appointed Montfort provincial grand master in 1771. He started several of our oldest lodges. The banknote was on Internet auction.

Rick is excited. I respond that, "Yea, that's cool. Grand Lodge has no budget for stuff like that."

A few days later, Rick comes back with, "Well, I won the auction."

After that comes the reality of preserving important history. It's not cheap.

Rick wrote me later, "When you explained to me at the Carolina Inn on July 11 [at the William Polk celebration] that no signature of Joseph Montfort exists at Grand Lodge, while sitting between you and Walter Klein wearing his Montfort Medal, my decision was made then to present



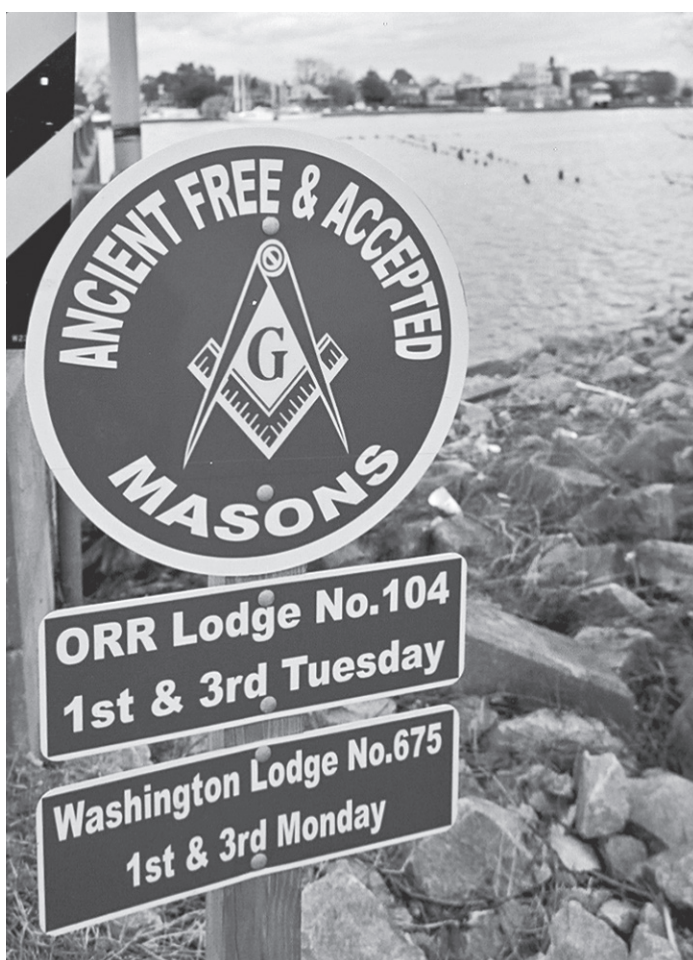
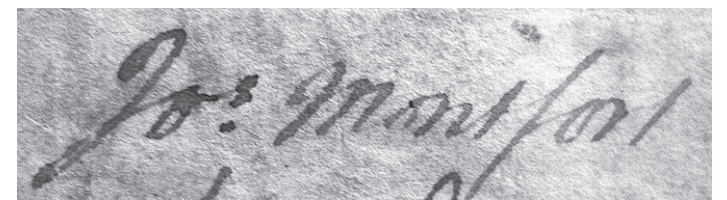
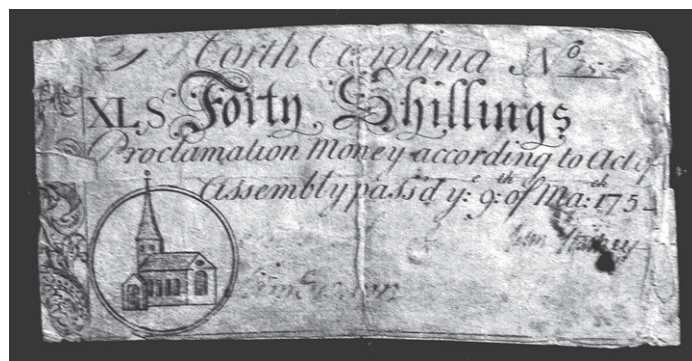
Ric Carter photos

Smith, left, presents Cash with the Montfort not.

this to Grand Lodge. Realizing that we have brothers who are of financial wealth, but that having stumbled across something that is significant to the fraternity, please accept the note as my gift."

Smith is seen here, at left, giving the preserved 40 shilling North Carolina banknote to Grand Master Dave Cash at Annual Communication in September.

You may now see the note and Montfort's signature beside the Montfort Commission, the document appointing him "provincial grand master of and for America," at the Grand Lodge office.



Do Masons passing through your hometown know when and where they can find a lodge meeting?



Ric Carter photo

Pig cookers pour smoke on Caswell Street

RALEIGH — Tom Price knows barbecue, he's a professional. That's him on the left emerging from a cloud of pork smoke at a recent Hiram 40 barbecue sale. Barely visible through in the haze is Ron Page. Ron's not a pro, but he surely knows his way around a pig cooker. A couple of times a year, the lodge sells plates to raise money for Masonic charities.

THE MISSION OF FREEMASONRY IN NORTH CAROLINA IS TO RAISE THE MORAL, SOCIAL, INTELLECTUAL, AND SPIRITUAL CONSCIENCE OF SOCIETY BY TEACHING THE ANCIENT AND ENDURING PHILOSOPHICAL TENETS OF BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF, AND TRUTH, WHICH ARE EXPRESSED OUTWARDLY THROUGH SERVICE TO GOD, FAMILY, COUNTRY, AND SELF UNDER THE FATHERHOOD OF GOD WITHIN THE BROTHERHOOD OF MAN.

NORTH CAROLINA The Mason

(USPS 598-260) is published bimonthly by The Grand Lodge of AF & AM of North Carolina, 2921 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27608.

Third class postage paid at Oxford, NC 27565.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The North Carolina Mason*, School Of Graphic Arts, Masonic Home for Children, Oxford, NC 27565.

Grand Master
David R. Cash

Board Of Publication
John O. Newman Jr., Chairman
Gary R. Ballance
Don E. Bolden
Thomas A. Pope Jr.
Hugh K. Terrell Jr.

Editor
Ric Carter

Good quality pictures, whether color or black and white, are essential for suitable reproduction. The right to reject any submission not suitable for use is reserved. Pictures will be returned to the sender only if accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Submissions and other correspondence should be sent to the editor at PO Box 6506, Raleigh, NC 27628 or rcarter@grandlodge-nc.org.

Each North Carolina Mason is a subscriber to *The North Carolina Mason*. If you know a member who is not receiving the paper, please send us his full name, his complete address and the name and number of his lodge. Masonic widows receive *The Mason* free upon request. Subscriptions are available to others at a rate of five dollars per year. Subscription inquiries and address changes only should be sent to: The School of Graphic Arts, Masonic Home for Children, 600 College Street, Oxford, North Carolina 27565.

Reproduction of articles by Masonic organizations is permitted with proper credits.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of *The North Carolina Mason*, the Grand Lodge, or Board of Publication.

TRAVELING THE TAR HEEL STATE



NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA'S LODGES

By Ric Carter

Hillsborough

By late October, through its annual barbecue and charitable collections, Eagle 19 had sent nearly \$5,000 to the Masonic Home for Children and more than \$1,200 to WhiteStone (MESH).

Work proceeds on the historic building that is their home. They created the Historic Eagle Lodge Foundation as a 501(c)(3) charity to restore and maintain the nearly 200-year-old building.

They have finished repairing the downstairs meeting room and started on the foyer and stairway area. The mortar on the outside has been repaired and rebuilding the top of the chimney is in process. They are currently getting estimates on grading to improve the drainage around the foundation.

Tax-deductible donations for the building may be sent to Historic Eagle Lodge Foundation Inc., P. O. Box 373, Hillsborough, NC 27278. — *Eagle Lodge*

Fayetteville

Clifford Duell 756 had 46 on hand for their Veterans', Past Masters', and Ladies' Night November 15. Their supper included a carving station with both turkey and roast beef. Rob Rowe was their speaker for the evening. The Marvin Asbill Cornerstone Award for outstanding Masons in 2008 went to James Baker, Al Tanzilo, and Vaughn Steele. Emily Ann Merrick, a local teen they sponsored to the National Sojourners' Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge, was a special guest.

The table lodge they had in October went well and was a learning experience for everyone. Table lodges are enjoyed in many jurisdictions. For this one, they went alcohol free with its several toasts.

Duell Lodge looked back in pride at their year. At 87, their membership was the largest ever for the lodge. They had a Masonic education program and refreshment from a different Mason every month. They had two social gatherings and stayed connected with a lodge newsletter, Blue Sheet. They raised nearly \$3,000 for Masonic charity and participated in the Masonic Service Association VA Hospital Visitation Program. — *Blue Sheet*

Spruce Pine

Vesper 554 hosted their annual joint meeting with Bakersville 357 on October 16. The barbecue supper was enjoyed by visitors from Black Mountain, Florida, and South Carolina.

Vesper Lodge donated to Imagination Library in Mitchell and Yancy counties. They sponsor two children who will receive a book each month from birth until their fifth birthday to encourage and reward reading and learning.

At their November 6 meeting, Vesper Lodge was holding an open portion of the meeting to present service awards. Veteran's Emblems for 50 years membership were to go to Donald Duncan, Everrett Lawrence Jr., Carl Putnam, and Kay Maters. — *The Beacon*

Paw Creek

Back in 1983, West Gate 738 wanted to try something different for a fundraiser. They decided on a chicken fry, bought 500 pounds of chicken, set to cooking, and sold every piece. They haven't looked back. In the 25 years of frying chicken, they've made more than \$100,000 for charity.

At their most recent fry, they cooked 2,400 pounds and expect to clear more than \$5,000.

Eddie Ellis Jr. and his motorcycle shop sponsor a toy run each year for the Masonic Home for Children. Members of West Gate Lodge were urged to bring toys or clothing to the lodge for the ride. For those who don't enjoy shopping, a \$20 Wal-Mart gift card was suggested. While the weather hurt this year's turnout, there were still lots of toys to be delivered to the Home December 21.

West Gate recently presented a 50-year award to John Luptak on behalf of his lodge in Pennsylvania. — *News from the West*

Pilot Mountain

Pilot 493 was getting a free flagpole thanks to a George Toler find. They were running up to Virginia to pick it up. When they got it home, sanding, cleaning, and painting was planned.

Pilot Lodge and their Eastern Star were helping sponsor a blood drive at the local Methodist Church on November 24.

The Fall Barbecue there raised nearly \$1,000 for charity. — *The Pilot Mountain Traveler*

Smithfield

Fellowship 84 scheduled its Past Masters' and Ladies' Evening for November 6. They were traveling down to the Cafe in Meadow to enjoy their widely known buffet of country cooking. — *Harvey Evans*

Franklin

Junaluskee 145 had a covered dish dinner October 21. At the supper, they honored the wives of the lodge and especially the widows. Mike Norris was speaker and extolled the "importance of these women to Freemasonry."

Junaluskee Lodge has a couple of projects reaching out to the community. They are collecting non-perishable food items for the Manna Food Bank. They were also selling 2009 pocket calendars for five dollars each. Proceeds were for buying school items they will be handing out to kids at the Macon County Fair.

Their Past Masters Degree was set for January 13. — *Trestleboard*

Newton

Catawba 248 was having their Awards Night November 25. They are also hunting a newsletter editor. — *Trestle Board*

Cherryville

They move a lot of food at Cherryville 505 in the fall.

On October 17, they had their Annual Chicken Barbecue Sale.

They cook and sell Boston butt roasts in November. They have them ready to go on the day before Thanksgiving — just in time to take some of the load off the cooks at home. The roasts were \$25 each. — *News Out of the Blue*



Grand Master Cash and Casar Lodge's officers and members show off their new Washington gavel.

Casar turns 100

CASAR — Casar 579 celebrated their 100th birthday November 1. Eighty guests and members attended the barbecue supper and meeting. There were several speakers and gift presentations during the evening.

Then-Grand Master David Cash gave them a short history of our Grand Lodge and shared his story of the big mouth frog. Dean Clatterbuck and Pierre Goze from Potomac 5 in Washington, DC told the lodge the story of the gavel used by George Washington to set the cornerstone of the US Capitol in a Masonic ceremony. They gave the lodge a replica of the gavel.

Kenneth Beam gave the history of Casar Lodge over the past 100 years. Paul Fannie presented the lodge with a Masonic Door knocker as a birthday present to the lodge. — *Eric Newton*



Paul Fannie presented Master Eric Newton new door knockers.

Mount Gilead

Blackmer 127 was planning their Ladies' Night for November 21 at the Methodist Church fellowship hall. — *Blackmer Buzz*

Charlotte

Temple 676 has started having their stated meeting meals catered. They report it being "an outstanding success," but it does require the members to give Junior Warden Kevin Sayed notice that they will be attending. — *Temple Tales*

Excelsior Master Phillip Brown is posting his lodge meal menu in the lodge newsletter. "If you don't like what we are having, you will be able to plan ahead. No one should go home hungry."

Kirk Wessner is heading up Excelsior Lodge's mentoring program. They were calling for volunteers to serve as guides for new Masons. — *Trestle Board*

East Gate 692 raffled a black powder rifle in December. It was a replica Model 1858 Remington .58 cal Zouave. — *Trestleboard*

Charles M. Setzer 693 held their annual awards program in the late fall. Allan Man, their newest Master Mason, was named Mason of the Year. J. B. Kiser was presented the Unity Trowel Award. Robert Nanny was given his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years Masonic membership.

For the program, Scott Bester, their chaplain and an avid Revolutionary War reenactor, presented a history of the Masonic apron. The evening's barbecue dinner was prepared by one of their newest candidates, Kenneth Barnette. — *Trestleboard*

Steele Creek held its 39th Annual Barbecue fundraiser November 13. It was the first in their new building. Profits from the event exceeded \$8,000.

Soon after the barbecue, lodge members shared breakfast at a local cafe before going to Ed Elam's house to clean up the cookers.

At Steele Creek Lodge's Awards Night, Clifford Austin was presented his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years as a Mason. — *Trestleboard*

Statesville

Statesville 27 has been keeping things busy at the lodge building recently. Their Fall Pancake Jamboree was termed a "huge success."

Statesville Lodge was holding Family Night November 1. Chicken pie and mashed potatoes headlined the menu.

They also planned a January 27 open house. They were having a meal and program to introduce prospective members to Freemasonry. Members submitted the names of men who were sent invitations to the event. Dress was casual. — *The Joppa Informer*

Raleigh

Masters 754 used their November stated meeting to practice and try out new offices. Everyone moves up one station. — *The Trowel*

Millbrook 97 held their Fall Barbecue Fundraiser October 10. They sold more than 1,000 plates, earning more than \$4,000 dollars for Masonic charity.

On December 10, Millbrook Lodge was holding their Ladies' Night at the Wake County Shrine Club. — *Millbrook Messenger*

Conover

Conover 709 was helping with the Annual Community Blood Drive at the Fire Department January 2.

On December 11, the lodge presented Edwin R. Chapman his Diamond Jubilee Award for 60 years membership. Cecil D. Johnston got his Veteran's Emblem for 50 years service.

Conover Lodge elected Jack Divine an honorary member October 23. — *Conover Lodge*

Rose Hill

Rehobeth 279's September fundraiser brought in more than \$3,400 for the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford.

Rehobeth's Past Masters' and Ladies' Night was set for December 8. DeWitt Merritt was to get his Diamond Jubilee Award for 60 years membership. William Tucker was getting his 50-year Veteran's Emblem. — *Bulletin of Rehobeth Lodge*

Boone

There are children who spend the holidays in protective custody. Not being allowed any contact with family members or friends is a terrible experience. Snow 363 was able to help make it an easier time for some kids in their area. Through the program in which they participated, eight children were able to have some relief by getting a dozen or so gifts for Christmas. — *Boone Lodge*

Hickory

November 20 was Awards Night at Hickory 343. Seventy-five people attended. Junior Warden Dan Rolon and Kim Rolon were named the lodge's Mason of the Year and Wife of the Year. Veteran's Emblems for 50 years Masonic membership, were presented to William Paul Donkel, Charles Davidson Lucas Jr., and Jack Kuehner Suther. The Philadelphia Lutheran Church Bell Choir entertained.

Following the "great success" of last year's Brookford Community Toy Drive, Hickory Lodge helped out again this past Christmas. The drive brings kids in one of the area's rough neighborhoods a more pleasant holiday. Local law enforcement runs the program. Hickory Lodge collected toys and cash to make it even better.

It must have looked like an amusement park at Hickory's Masonic Center August 9. That was when they held the lodge's Annual Family Day. More than 200 enjoyed the attractions. There was a water slide, a bouncy castle, a dunk tank, and other treat activities aimed at pleasing the kids. Projects for them included tee-shirt painting and making photo frames for their families. Becky the Balloon Lady was there. The menu featured hamburgers, hot dogs, corn on the cob, and an even dozen flavors of home-made ice cream. — *Hickory Lodge*

Salisbury

The 28th Masonic District was holding its blood drive at the Salisbury Civic Center January 2.

Fulton 99 Master Gary Yost is making three requests of each member this year: come to lodge at least once, help in some way with their October barbecue, and promote Masonry to "one good man."

He is asking two more things of past masters: bring all the men raised on his watch to Past Masters' Night and assist in their Past Masters' Degree. — *Master's Journal*

Bessemer City

Whetstone 515 celebrated Bessemer City's Down Home Day. They sold barbecue plates and 160 Boston butt pork roasts that "were the talk of the town." They raised more than \$3,000.

Volunteers took care of repairs at the lodge. Mike Wray repaired the lodge's lighted sign. Fred Cloninger, from Gaston 263, fixed the walls inside the lodge.

They were presenting service awards at their December 16 officer installation. — *The Whetstone*

Bakersville

As one of his first acts in office, Grand Master Dan Rice installed the officers of Bakersville 357. Fifty years ago, it was Bakersville Lodge that sponsored Rice and his siblings at the Masonic Home for Children in Oxford.

A recent barbecue lunch here raised money for Bakersville Lodge Master Roger Hoilman's battle with ALS. Anyone wishing to help may contact the Roan Mountain OES, P. O. Box 531, Bakersville, NC 28705. — *The Beacon*

Warsaw

The Annual Pancake Breakfast at Warsaw 677 is held to raise money for local charity. The most recent was held November 8 and brought in more than \$1,100. They've already started disbursing the money. They gave \$200 to a sick Eastern Star member, \$200 to the Eastern Baptist Association for their Christmas charity, and \$200 to Duplin County Social Services for Christmas charity. From other funds, they sent more than \$400 to each of our Masonic Homes.

Warsaw Lodge's Ladies' and Awards Night was set for December 2. — *Warsaw Lodge*

Canton

Sonoma 472 held a Veterans Appreciation Dinner October 2. Forty-two vets were among the 68 attendees. Ronald Putnam, a veteran with multiple decorations, was the featured speaker for the evening. Several residents from the Veterans Administration facility in Asheville joined the lodge for dinner. Each was presented a certificate of appreciation. A special certificate was presented to Jenny Carver saluting her father Donald McCracken's service to the country and the friendship he demonstrated for years to many of the lodge's members. — *Valley of the Moon*

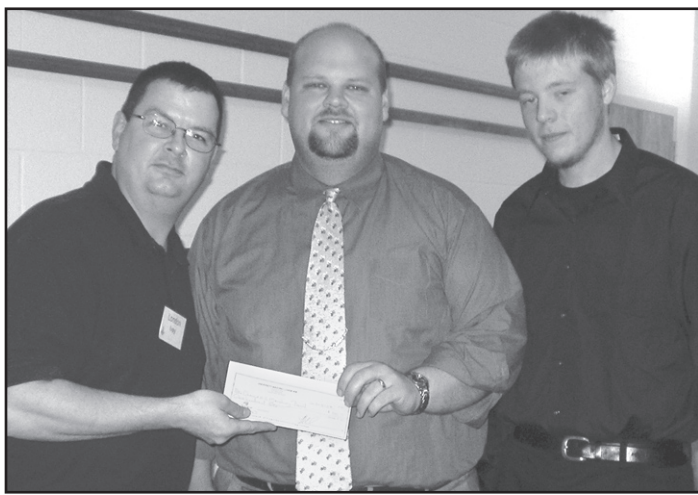
see STATE, page 5

If your lodge has a newsletter for its members, make sure *The North Carolina Mason* is on your mailing list. Lodge newsletters are a major source of news for Masons around the state. If you don't have one, think about starting one. Newsletters are a good way to keep your members active and informed.



Free tax help offer for Masonic widows

Masonic widows can get their tax returns done free this year at Liberty Tax Service offices in North Carolina. They can thank Tim Biggerstaff, a past master of Allen Graham 695 in Kannapolis. Biggerstaff owns a Liberty Tax franchise there. The national company sponsors a number of service projects each year. Biggerstaff persuaded them to offer free tax preparation to Masonic widows in North Carolina. Also, Masons may get a \$25 rebate or donation to Masonic charity on their personal returns.



University Lodge helps band

CHAPEL HILL — University 408, on November 3, presented a donation to the Orange High School Band in honor of London Ivey, left. Ivey, an Orange County Sheriff's Department deputy, served at Orange High as school officer. Receiving the check are Andy Carter, band director, and Drake Carithers, a senior class member of the band.



Murphy Masons help kids

MURPHY — Each year in Murphy, the Shop With a Cop program brightens holiday season for needy kids. It sends local kids with a law enforcement officer to stores to pick out their own gifts. For many, it would be an otherwise bleak time. Just before Christmas this year, Cherokee 146 gave the Murphy Police Department a donation to help with the shopping. Seen here is Tim Dockery, left, presenting their check to Murphy Police Chief Justin Jacobs. — John Schnelbach



Home enjoys NC mountain Christmas trees

For more than 25 years, Ashe 594 has delivered Christmas cheer to the Masonic Home for Children in the form of beautiful, live North Carolina fir Christmas trees. Each year, the Masons from West Jefferson bring a tree for each cottage on campus. Dale Hudler and Hudler Tree Farms supply the trees to the lodge each year. When Mike Sawyer, his wife and members of the lodge made their delivery this year, they were presented with a plaque showing the appreciation of the Home for the continued kindness. They also sent a plaque back for the nice folks at Hudler Tree Farms. Sawyer is seen here receiving the plaque from Home for Children Administrator Allen Hughes. — MHCO

Grand Master sets district meetings

Grand Master Dan Rice plans to visit more than half our districts this year. His meetings start in late February and will finish in early June. The meetings this year will be mostly in the odd numbered districts. His meetings will be similar to the area meetings of the past few years. Pre-meeting meals are scheduled for 6:15 p.m. with the tyled meeting starting at 7:00 p.m.. District officers and the grand master will be received with usual honors.

You may make your lodge's reservation for the meeting with your district deputy grand master or lodge secretary. Please be considerate of the host lodge. Make your reservations for dinner at least seven days before your scheduled meeting. It is very frustrating to try to plan for a meal when reservations have not been made. Your lodge will be responsible to pay for all meals reserved. Those who have not made reservations should not expect to eat.

Date	District	Lodge	Location
February 23	19	Person 113	Roxboro
February 24	24	Biscoe 437	Biscoe
March 3	25	Pilot 493	Pilot Mountain
March 4	23	Numa F. Reid 344	High Point
March 5	13	John H. Mills 624	Epsom
March 23	3	7 Bakersville 357	Bakersville
March 24	41	Marble Springs 439	Marble
March 25	40	East LaPorte 358	Cullowhee
March 26	39	Mt. Hermon 118	Asheville
March 30	27	Mocksville 134	Mocksville
March 31	22	Bula 409	Burlington
April 1	15	Garner 701	Garner
April 13	31	St. Andrews 702	Charlotte
April 14	35	Fairview 339*	Kings Mountain
April 15	34	Lovelady 670	Valdese
April 27	5	Rich Square 488	Rich Square
April 28	1	Eureka 317	Elizabeth City
April 29	6	Greenville 284	Greenville
April 30	9	Morning Star 85	Nashville
May 12	3	Belhaven 509	Belhaven
May 13	7	Ionic 583	Cove City
May 14	11	St. Johns 13	Kenansville
May 20	33	Mt. Pleasant 573	Wilkesboro
May 21	29	Waxhaw 562	Waxhaw
June 1	12	Oak Island 758	Oak Island
June 2	18	Lebanon 207	Whiteville
June 3	21	Raeford 306	Raeford

*hosted by State Line 375

In case of inclement weather, meetings will be cancelled in accordance with local schools cancellations. If a meeting is cancelled, the host lodge and district deputy grand master will be notified. Your lodge may cancel its stated communication to attend your district meeting. Information will also be posted on the Grand Lodge web site: www.grandlodge-nc.org. This schedule was the schedule as of January 27, 2009. Changes may be necessary. Please consult your lodge for updates.

INSTALLATION, from page 1

The Grand Lodge officers and their wives entered the chapel under the arched swords assembled by the Greensboro Knights of Saint Andrews. Music was played by Donald Sizemore Jr. at the keyboards.

Masonic Home for Children Administrator Allen Hughes welcomed the crowd. Assistant Administrator Chris Richardson did the invocation. Debbie-Claire McBee Rice, Rice's granddaughter, led the Pledge of Allegiance. George Tyre led the congregational singing.

The ceremony was very similar to the one you have seen in your own lodge. The entire group took an oath to serve his office and the Grand Lodge well. Each was then charged and presented the apron and jewel of his office.

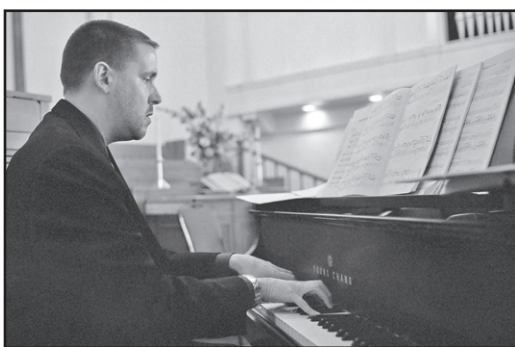
The Grand Lodge officers installed were Grand Master Dan C. Rice, Deputy Grand Master William L. Dill, Senior Grand Warden Lewis R. Ledford, Junior Grand Warden Robert E. Gresham Jr., Grand Treasurer Clifton W. Everett Jr. (PGM), Grand Secretary T. Walton Clapp III, Senior Grand Deacon Dewey R. Preslar Jr., Junior Grand Deacon Dalton W. Mayo, Grand Marshal Douglas L. Caudle, Grand Steward Bryant D. Webster, Grand Steward A. Gene Cobb Jr., Grand Tyler Stephen Lynch, and Grand Chaplain Alan Sasser. Other appointive officers who are not installed were Grand Historian Michael W. Brantley, Grand Lecturer Donald E. Kehler, Grand Orator Clifton W. Everett Jr. (PGM), and Judge Advocate Jimmie B. Hix Jr.

The Grand Lodge was opened earlier in the day by members of Bula 409 who temporarily took the chairs of office to open and close the formal communication in the nearby lodge room. Those pro tempore officers were: Roger D. Stutts as grand master; Dwight W. Crews, deputy grand master; H. Sean Boone, senior grand warden; Norman L. Strickland, junior grand warden; Bill Brame, grand treasurer; Donald E. Kehler, grand secretary; Brian R. Langhoff, senior grand deacon; Michael B. Enoch, junior grand deacon; C. Gene Martin, grand marshal; James O. Branson, senior grand steward; Ronnie L. Reid, junior grand steward; Mark A. Cook, grand tyler; and George L. Tyre, grand chaplain.



2009 officers, front from left, are Cliff Everett, Bob Gresham, Billy Dill, Dan Rice, Lew Ledford, and Walt Clapp. Back, from left, Steve Lynch, Dewey Preslar, Dalton Mayo, Doug Caudle, Alan Sasser, Gene Cobb, and Bryant Webster.

Ric Carter photos



Donald Sizemore Jr. played.



Officer's families enter the chapel.

Immediate Past Grand Master David R. Cash pronounced the benediction.

Rice dedicated the installation ceremony to "all the Masons of North Carolina and especially those who in 1872 had the courage to step out in faith and open Oxford Orphans Asylum" and to "almost 10,000 children who have called this sacred ground home" and the "many great teachers and employees [who] have given unselfishly over and over again to help an orphan find his/her way in a dark world."

STEWARDS, from page 1

Arnold Gene Cobb Jr. was born in Roanoke Rapids July 9, 1958 to Arnold Gene and Joyce Pittard Cobb. Cobb majored in religion at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill before getting his masters at the Duke University Divinity School and his doctorate at Salisbury's Hood Theological Seminary.

He attained the rank of Eagle Scout in 1972. He was official statistician for the UNC Varsity Basketball Team 1977-79. He was a trustee of Louisburg College and an instructor at Duke 2000-2001.

Cobb has pastored United Methodist Churches in Mount Gilead, Wilson, Louisburg, Norlina, and Alamance, Edgecombe, and Nash

counties. He is currently pastor of Epworth United Methodist Church in Durham. He is an adjunct faculty member of Hood Theological Seminary and has mentored candidates for ordained ministry for more than ten years.

Cobb was raised at Blackmer 127 in Mount Gilead in 1993. He served as their master in 1995. He later moved his membership to Royal White Hart 2 in Halifax where he was master in 1999. He was on the Board of the Masonic Home for Children 2004-2007 and was grand chaplain in 2004. He is currently chairman of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Cobb is married to Brenda King of Paris, Mississippi. They have a blended family of eight children.



The Grand Lodge's officers take their oath.

RICE, from page 1

In the fall of 1968 I entered UNC-Chapel Hill where I majored in math. When it appeared that I was going to be drafted out of college into the Armed Services because my draft lottery number was so low, I finished the semester at Chapel Hill and found a job as a printer at the Winston-Salem Journal. As it turned out I was never drafted, even though I should have been almost immediately based on my draft lottery number.

I later moved to Burlington and worked for the Burlington Times News for a couple of years as a printer. I left the printing business in 1973 to go to work as a credit manager for a large tire store chain. I learned the tire business and gradually moved up to a store manager.

In 1984, I purchased part of Piedmont Truck Tires in Greensboro. I bought shares of stock each year from the original owner until 1999 when I bought the remaining shares. When I started there, Piedmont had seven employees including me. We now have around one hundred and seventy employees and seven locations across North Carolina.

In 1973 I married Deborah Watts from Hillsborough. Today, we have two children, Laura who is 31 and John who is 29. I also have two wonderful grand children, Debbie-Claire

and Mark.

I am a past master of Bula 409 in Burlington and a member of Orphans 761 in Oxford. I am a member of the Scottish Rite, the Greensboro York Rite, Battle of Alamance Chapter of Eastern Star, Amran Shrine, the White Shrine of Jerusalem, the Red Cross of Constantine, and the Royal Order of Scotland.

I have served several terms on the Board of Directors at the Masonic Home for Children since 1983 and currently serve as treasurer and chairman of the Finance Committee there. I have served as chairman of the Grand Lodge Finance Committee plus many other Grand Lodge committees and boards. I have also served as chairman of Finance Committee at WhiteStone, and I am currently serving my second year as chairman of the Board of Directors at WhiteStone.

I am a past president of the Oxford Orphanage Alumni Association where I served on their Board of Directors for more than 30 years. I am a life member of the UNC-CH Alumni Association. I served multiple terms on the North Carolina Tire Dealers Association Board of Directors.

I am a member of St. Marks Church in Burlington. I am involved with many other local charities.

COMPACT, from page 8

master. It was directly above the governor's office (more than 40 men who have held that job were Masons) that black and white Masons filled to overflowing the old House chamber to see the signing of a compact of recognition. In fact, they filled the Senate chamber as well, where a crowd witnessed the event on closed circuit television.

Officers of both grand lodges were marched in under the swords of Prince Hall Knights Templar. The two groups were seated interspersed throughout the chamber.

State Representative Bill Faison called the crowd to order and served as master of ceremonies. Faison was only the first in a long line of prominent Masons who marked the importance of the day. US Representative Bob Etheridge led the Pledge of Allegiance. Past Grand Master Gerry Smith welcomed the throng. Former Speaker of the NC House Dan Blue Jr. spoke to the pleasures of the day and the "opportunity to complete the circle."

Former Chief Justice of the NC Supreme Court James Exum Jr. spoke of the arduous journey completed. Former Chief Justice of the NC Supreme Court Henry Frye read the compact

and resolution. Both Frye and Exum were on the joint commission of the grand lodges that wrote the recognition.

Grand Master Cash said, "Today's a historic day, because we're here to say we're brothers again."

Past Grand Master Leonard Safrit gave a synopsis of the history of the coming of the event. Lester Sabsook, in the guise of Prince Hall, visited and congratulated those assembled on their progress.

There were more than a few tears of happiness when the compacts were presented and Grand Masters Milton F. Fitch Jr. and David R. Cash stood to sign the resolutions. The table they signed the compact on was the same table used 148 years ago for the signing of North Carolina's resolution to secede from the Union.

There was no hurry to leave after the ceremony. Many seemed reluctant to go away after experiencing what many called the happiest Masonic event they ever saw. Commemorative pins and pens were handed out to attendees. Refreshments were served in the rotunda after the ceremony.



Clockwise from above: Grand Masters Fitch and Cash and Rep. Bill Faison. Full dress prayer, former House Speaker Dan Blue, former Chief Justice Henry Frye, former Chief Justice Jim Exum, overflow crowd in Senate chamber.



**Resolution
of
Mutual Recognition**

**The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina
and
The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted
Masons of North Carolina and Its Jurisdictions, Inc.**

Whereas, The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Its Jurisdictions, Inc. being desirous to insure a continuing harmonious relationship, and to provide for the successful coexistence of both Grand Lodges, and to promote Masonry in general among all peoples; and

Whereas, the Grand Lodges believe that it is altogether right and proper and in the best interests of Masonry everywhere and particularly in North Carolina that these two Grand Lodges exercising Masonic jurisdiction in this state mutually recognize each other while each retains its own autonomy and jurisdiction hereafter as heretofore; and



Whereas, the Grand Lodges are satisfied that each Grand Lodge meets all Masonic requirements for recognition; and

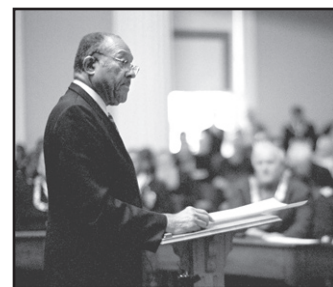
Whereas, each Grand Lodge has a long and noble history and has shared residency in the Tar Heel State for many years, and has: and

Whereas, each Grand Lodge desires to remain autonomous within its jurisdiction and to operate hereafter as heretofore with its own grand master and other Grand Lodge officers, Constitution, bylaws, ritual, rules and regulations, and to retain its absolute and supreme sovereignty over its own subordinate lodges and membership; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That:

- 1. The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Its Jurisdictions, Inc. hereby extend fraternal recognition to each other as a duly constituted Masonic Grand Lodge;*
- 2. The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Its Jurisdictions, Inc. will each remain autonomous within its jurisdiction and will operate hereafter as heretofore with its own grand master and other Grand Lodge officers, Constitution, bylaws, ritual, rules and regulations, and will retain its absolute and supreme sovereignty over its own subordinate lodges and membership.*
- 3. The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina and Its Jurisdictions, Inc. will go forth together to fulfill the promise of Freemasonry and use its kind offices to improve the lot of all North Carolina's people.*



STATE, from page 3

Greensboro

P.P. Turner 746 recently held their Ladies' and Awards Night. There was a good turnout for the event which saw the awarding of a Meritorious Service Award to Ross Geller and the naming of Rob Mitchell the lodge's Mason of the Year.

Turner Lodge was selling pork shoulders in a November 22 fundraiser. The 16-18-pound shoulders were sold for \$40 each with proceeds headed for Masonic charities.

— P. P. Turner Lodge

Bailey

Gerald Glover recently had a stroke. He was happy that he had recently raised his son and two grandsons as Master Masons.

— Newsletter

Jacksonville

Semper Fidelis 680 had a successful fundraiser in September in spite of a slap from Hurricane Hanna.

They had their Past Masters' and Widows' Night Out set for November 15.

—Trestle Board

Cary

Cary 198 was generous with the "thank yous" at their December 6 Ladies' and Awards Night Banquet. Ludwik J. Wodka was named Mason of the Year. Distinguished Service Awards went to Carson A. Clippard Jr., Benton W. Oaks Jr., and Woodley B. Kennedy. Aaron W. Harris, Jeff B. Scott, Thomas E. Long, C. Bryan Jones, Stephen A. Lewis, and Donald E. Ellers got Certificates of Excellence. Certificates of Appreciation went to Lindsay S. Hodges, Horace P. Hodges Jr., and Joseph R. Hodges. It was also the night they celebrated the lodge's 150th anniversary.

Cary Lodge has long been active with Cary Band Day, one of North Carolina's biggest high school marching band competitions. It was a natural for them to be a participant in the events 50th anniversary. They were in the parade and also helped with traffic control and band hosting.

— Trestle Board

Casar

On August 23, Casar 579 held their second Annual Masonic Golf Tournament. This year's tournament had more than 40 hole sponsors and raised more than \$6,000.

More than 200 folks attended Casar Lodge's annual picnic on September 6.

— The Trestle Board

Wilmington

St. John's 1 had their annual Past Masters' Degree scheduled for November 12.

— St. John's Lodge

Orient 395 is hoping for a 50 percent reduction in gas costs after switching their cooking and heating to natural gas. — Orient Express 395

The Wilmington Scottish Rite was selected to the 2008 Best of Wilmington Award in the Non-Profit Organizations category by the US Local Business Association. — Ace Everett

South Mills

Lilton Umphlett's cornbread was a major attraction when New Lebanon 314 held its fish fry in October. Visitors were aboard from Hall 53, Widow's Son 75, and Gatesville 126. Contingents from Churchland and Great Bridge lodges made their way across the border from Virginia.

— The Plumb Line

Black Mountain

Black Mountain 663 has disconnected their telephone. They reported less than three calls a month to their answering machine. With most of their members carrying a cell phone to every meeting, it was an expense of \$700 a year that they could jettison. — The Traveling Trowel

Murphy

Cherokee 146 hosted their Annual Veteran's Day Program in November. They had a covered dish dinner.

Cherokee Lodge had a float in the local Christmas Parade. They issued an open invitation to western North Carolina Masons to ride the float. — Derek Check



Alderman memorialized in Clinton

CLINTON — Hiram 98 held its Annual Ladies' Night and Awards Dinner November 1. At that meeting, they recognized J. B. Alderman's family. Alderman's family recently donated the furnishings for the lodge's downstairs lobby in his memory. Alderman, who died last December, was lodge treasurer for 22 years. The lodge placed a plaque on the wall in memory of Alderman. Seen here, from left, are Alderman's grandsons Blake and Blair, his son Ronnie, his widow Myrtis, daughter-in-law Pat, and grandsons Eric and Cory. — Dalton Mayo



Kids get holiday glasses

RALEIGH — LensCrafters of Triangle Town Center chooses one charity each year as part of their annual holiday giving. Kids for the Masonic Home for Children this year got free eye examinations and new frames and glasses for those children needing them. That amounted to more than 25 pairs of glasses. Will Yates of LensCrafters organized this year's event which even included a viewing party with goodies from several suppliers from the food court. — MHCO

BENEATH THE OAKS



Through the eyes of the child

By Allen Hughes
Administrator
Masonic Home for Children at Oxford

Oh, the tangled web we weave! My living at the "Orphanage" as a child was much easier for me to understand than it is for me to explain to the children who live here why they're here today, or in some cases why they can't stay here, or to explain why certain decisions have been made which they think are not fair to them.

There have been frequent occasions when someone has told me they once lived in a large residential home such as ours or in foster homes and then commenced to relate some of their experiences. Two unpleasant themes that often emerge from the conversations are (1) the emotional distress of not knowing the truth and (2) the instability caused by frequent moves.

I will be one of the first to agree that it is best for children to live with their family if they can live safely and be properly cared for. However, I will be among of the first to argue that it is neither safe nor proper in many cases for children to live with their family or relatives.

Permanence is critical to all of us, especially to children; yet so many times when children are removed from their homes they experience constant instability. The more children move the less secure they feel, and they stop trusting those who promise to make their life better.

Throughout the history of our children's home, we have tried to provide a caring and stable environment for children who could not live safely in their own homes.

the social services system considers our Home as a last resort or only a temporary placement for children in need of a stable environment. If children are left with MHCO long enough they recognize that their life can be stable here and that they have a chance for a positive future.

Why do I continue to express concern that our society in general and federal and state governments in particular seem to be focusing more effort to remove the large residential homes as an option for caring for children in need? Many of our supporters - Masons and alumni alike - keep reacting to comments that the Masonic Home for Children is about to close or that the state is running our Home.

Youth should be given a chance to become productive citizens rather than being burdens on society. Permanence and a stable life improve the chances for success. I have neither the facts and figures nor research studies readily available to compare the success of graduates from our Home with the general population.

their home. The life they had here was much better than they could have experienced living elsewhere, especially with relatives or other family members.

Many of us have heard "home is where the heart is," and to me and many other alumni the Masonic Home for Children still is home. While our numbers are dwindling due to the influence of "Father Time," each October many alumni of the Home return to be with "family" and to reminisce.

This was, and is, our home. Many of the children here today feel the same way. It is good that they have family and relatives with whom they can bond, but it is more important to them that they have a safe and caring home in which to live.

Youth would be an ideal state if it came a little later in life. - Herbert Henry Asquith

Let me help Masonry's charities

- The North Carolina Masonic Foundation
WhiteStone, a Masonic & Eastern Star Community (MESH)
The Masonic Home for Children
Send information about wills and bequests.
Please have someone contact me.

My name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ My lodge _____
In memory of (optional) _____
Address _____

To assure that your gift is properly credited to the fund of your choice, please make the check payable to that charity.

Mail to The Grand Lodge of North Carolina, PO Box 6506, Raleigh, NC 27628.

WELCOME OUR NEW BROTHERS

- 1.....Joshua Avitan
1.....James Leroy Bjork
3.....Thomas Franklin Bullard III
3.....Ralph Martin Campbell
3.....William Mark Carlisle
4.....Daniel Antonio Carmona
8.....Justin Karthy Cates
8.....Henry Francis Clothier
8.....Joshua Avitan
8.....James Leroy Bjork
8.....Thomas Franklin Bullard III
10.....Ralph Martin Campbell
10.....William Mark Carlisle
19.....Daniel Antonio Carmona
19.....Justin Karthy Cates
19.....Henry Francis Clothier
19.....Jeffrey Douglas Cockman
19.....Michael William Combs
27.....William Henry Cox Jr.
27.....William Jesse Crisp
27.....David Michael Dawkins
27.....Ronaldo Quintana Denuna
32.....Albert Brian Disher
32.....David Marion Edge
32.....Joshua Stephen Edwards
40.....Ethan Preston Ellsworth
40.....John Hanby Foard III
45.....Richard Mackinzie Gaskill
53.....Michael Francis Govignon
58.....Thomas Noel Harris IV
58.....William Alexander Harrison
64.....Jonathan Roy Hicks
64.....Bruce Walter Hisley
64.....Wayne Aydlett Hollowell Jr.
76.....Steven Michael Jacobs
76.....Gregory Ray Johnson
76.....Zachary Kendall Johnson
76.....Daniel Ryan Jones
83.....Grady Bryan Jones
83.....Matthew Ryan Joyner
83.....William Burdette Kicker Jr.
83.....Charles Bruce Lewis
83.....David William Livingston Jr.
83.....Phillip Mark Mesimer
83.....Jonathan Rocco Mook
98.....Eric Jason Morris
102.....Eric Andrew Mularski
104.....Jack Mularski
106.....Scott Alan Mularski
106.....Jackson Thomas Newbauer
109.....Brian Scott Nichols
109.....Ryan Thomas Pedersen
113.....Edward Scott Prophet
115.....Jason Terry Ruff
122.....James William Rutledge
123.....Shane Samuel Safrit
123.....George Andrew Salmons
123.....Vincent Joseph Sarno
125.....John Robert Schiffl
129.....Michael Eugene Scott
129.....Roger Adley Shuford
129.....Keith Andrew Stocum
129.....Russell Brandon Struyk
129.....John B. Tallent III
129.....David Charles Taylor
134.....Ernest Stephen Teague
146.....Kevin Scott Thomas
154.....Michael Shane Threatt
158.....Jon William Welborn
158.....Brian Lamar Welch
158.....Ross Andrew Whaley
167.....Adam Kyle Wimmer
172.....Joseph Reid Wynn
198.....Jason Bryant York
198.....John Theodore Younts
198.....Burnie Deese Austin
202.....Travis Cashful Baity
205.....Sean Dewey Points Bannon
207.....Daniel Lee Benfield
207.....James Archie Biggs Jr.
207.....Randy Coy Blanchard
214.....Gary Michael Boring
214.....Branden Edward Buchanan
217.....Robert Scott Bullard
229.....Charles Vernon Carpenter
229.....Glen Mitchell Carpenter
237.....Kenneth Eugene Collier Jr.
244.....Kevin Dwayne Conner
244.....Jimmy Ray Cook
253.....James Gallant Cooper
253.....Darian Phil Correll
261.....Matthew Wade Crutchfield
261.....Brian Louis Cyr
261.....Wayne Robert Dauphinais
261.....Michael Grant Davie
261.....Edward Cunningham Davis III
261.....John Carney Edwards
263.....John Russell Fields
263.....Franklin Ray Fulcher
263.....Alan Jay Gatewood
263.....Bobby Dwight Golding
263.....David Lynn Gray
265.....Israel Calderon Guzman
265.....Steven Edsel Hall
267.....Jeffrey Charles Ham
267.....Paul Jason Hayes
267.....Steven Eugene Hayes
267.....Sidney Dawson Heath
282.....Levi Austin Hefner
282.....Henry Rives Hicks
282.....Matthew Reade Holzbaur
283.....Joseph Earl Hutchinson
283.....Woodrow Inman III
283.....Kevin Lee Johnson
289.....Paul Alexander Johnson
289.....William Matthew Joyner
289.....Michael Christopher Kenlan
289.....Jack Holden Kennedy
289.....John Paul Lee
292.....Christopher Lloyd Lewallen
294.....William Albert Lillie
300.....Troy Allen Lineberger
314.....Justin Joel Loaces
314.....Woodrow Fleming Lovitt Jr.
322.....Johnny Dale Lucas
322.....Joshua Dale McKinney
322.....Albert Louis McMicken
331.....Stephen Robert Mitchell
331.....Christopher Lee Moody
339.....Brian Scott Moore
343.....Donnie Wayne Morgan
363.....Erik Lance Nichols
363.....Toren Arthur Nix
377.....Christopher Scott Norris
378.....William R. Parke
381.....David Scott Poteat
384.....Mark Anthony Poulos
387.....Hassie Shelburne Reynolds
387.....Glenn Daniel Rice
387.....Charlton Anthony Richardson
387.....Erik Arthur Schuman
388.....David Alan Shelby
388.....Brian Christopher Smedick
388.....John Wesley Sneed II
388.....Mahlon Patrick Swain
391.....Jeffrey James Swink
391.....Darren Lee Trogdon
391.....Michael Shane Turney
397.....Jeffrey Michael Ward
405.....Council Haywood Weddington Jr.
405.....Waylon Daniel Westbrook
407.....Christopher Mark Withrow
407.....David Clyde Wittman Jr.
407.....Jackie Ray Womack
407.....George Michael Yosich
408.....Phillip Lee Younts
409.....Timothy Earl Baker
409.....Clifford Eugene Baldowski
409.....Tracey Clayton Barker
412.....James Edward Beasley
412.....Matthew Carl Blake
413.....Richard Gray Bowen
413.....James Stephen Carberry
420.....Robert Bennett Carmon
420.....Gregory Lee Cathcart
427.....Frank Windel Crutchfield
429.....Vayton Neal Daniel
434.....Ben Everett Davis
434.....Eric James Denny
434.....Victor Cole Edwards
435.....Sammy Stephen Evans II
437.....Kyle Thomas Frey
444.....Phillip Curtis Gallahan
444.....Richard Hamme Garrett
461.....Jerry Michael Gibbs
461.....Daniel Lee Glenn
461.....Anthony Lynn Godwin
461.....Timothy Wayne Green
461.....Justin Andrew Hale
461.....John Clell Hamm
473.....Zackery Lee Handerson
473.....Michael Wayne Harman
483.....Charles Warner Harris
484.....Daniel Ray Harris
484.....James Dennis Hartley
484.....Michael Dale Harvey
491.....Joel James Herndon
496.....William Thomas Highsmith Jr.
500.....Tarek Issam Aboul Houda
500.....Charles Edward Hudson
500.....Charles Vance Hudson
500.....Stuart Innis
502.....Scott Ray Justus
502.....Wiley Branch Kessler III
505.....Richard Alan Lambert
521.....Michael Anthony Lewis
532.....Mark Douglas Mabe
532.....Douglas Gene Maready II
543.....Walter Lino Marques
544.....Howie George McCullough
550.....Joseph Wayne McDonald
552.....Roy Lewis McKain
554.....John Paxton McMillan
554.....Ryan Douglas McMillian
568.....Durward Primrose Medlin III
571.....Jason David Mesner
571.....David Nelson Morley
573.....James Robert Mullis
576.....Tedman Harold Myers
576.....Christopher Brian Neaves
590.....Lloyd Arnold Newman III
590.....Jeffrey Wayne Nix
592.....Jason Perry Nixon
598.....Charles Chadwicke Owenby
598.....Christopher Charles Owenby
609.....Jeffrey Cecil Paige
616.....Rodney Patrick Paulson
618.....Robert Paige Perry
624.....Clyde Darrell Pittman
627.....Kevin Michael Queen
629.....David Landon Rayburn
634.....Thomas Mayes Rembert IV
637.....David Ralph Rowe
637.....Brett Allen Rutherford
637.....Corey Reid Sain
637.....Patrick Ronald Salentine
646.....Jason Lee Scates
657.....Matthew Allan Seats
657.....Ira Lee Smith
658.....Jeremiah Lee Snyder
663.....Joshua Daniel Snyder
667.....William Chester Stalnaker III
667.....Todd Wesby Tilley
673.....Thomas Randall Towery
674.....William Charles Troetti
674.....Dennis Franklin Tyndall
675.....Michael Lee Wagoner
675.....Chad Evan Ward
678.....Christopher Bruce Wingfield
679.....Scott James Wischow
680.....Brian Neill Woychik
688.....James Bryan Wright
688.....Michael Leon Wyatt
689.....Joseph Eric Allen
694.....Joseph Allen Allsbrook
694.....Dwight Wayne Austin
694.....James Robert Austin
694.....Stephen Ray Berrier
695.....Timothy Hoyt Brawley
706.....Brandon Scott Brewer
708.....Jack Thomas Brock II
708.....Mark Glenn Carroll
708.....Mark Jarrett Chiarello
708.....Dwight Edwin Church
708.....Charles Eugene Coddington
709.....Charles Matthew Cox
712.....Joshua David Crisp
714.....Adam Scott Delp
714.....Christopher William Dement
715.....Gail Lee Elliott
730.....Grover Aubert Gore II
731.....Jerrod Stahr Hogle II
731.....Phillip Meredith Hunter
734.....Stephen Marshall Hux
734.....James Kerr Macfarlane
734.....Andrew James Malanik
735.....Edward Lee Mann
737.....Jacob Eugene McConnell
738.....Barry Sterling Mitchell
738.....Jacob Aaron Moyer
738.....Raymond Samuel Myers
738.....Anthony Ray Newton
738.....Mark Brian Oakley
738.....Robert Eric Ochart
739.....Joseph Domenick Palmeri
739.....Jeffrey Brand Parker
741.....Dennis Guy Patterson
741.....Joseph Lee Pegram
741.....Carlos Alberto Pereira
742.....Rodney Ervin Poole
742.....William Ray Ranes
742.....Travis Sanders Ross
744.....Teddy Zachary Santiago
746.....Kevin Carl Schutzman
749.....Carlyon Lee Smith
749.....James Leon Smith
749.....Jonathan Carroll Thomas
749.....Michael Leland Tucker
751.....Stuart Douglas Turner
751.....Zandt John Franklin Van
755.....Joseph Kenneth Ward
755.....Daniel Vincent Wheeler
757.....Christopher Robert Whitaker
758.....Mathew Albert Witt Jr.
758.....George Robert Frias
758.....Michael Leaverne Hargett
763.....Lobby Wendell Herring Jr.
763.....Luther Alexander Whitson

SENIOR MOMENTS

Charity Report

By Mark Kolada
Administrator
WhiteStone



"No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave" — Calvin Coolidge

This past year will be remembered as time of significant change in which America was confronted with difficult challenges on many fronts: continued conflict overseas, the economy slipping into recession causing many to lose their jobs and homes, and the declining stock market depleting many people's hard earned savings and investments. However here at WhiteStone the one thing that has not changed amidst this trying time has been the continued generosity and support of its fraternal members for this historic retirement community. All of the sisters and brothers throughout the state should be proud that although they may have had to dig a little deeper in their pockets, and sacrifice a little more, time and time again, lodges, chapters, and individuals found it in their hearts to contribute monetary donations, material gifts, or volunteer to our worthy cause to assist those in need.

Over the next month, each of the Masonic lodges will be receiving a detailed copy of 2008 WhiteStone Charity report. Below is a brief summary of the report's preliminary findings.

In 2008, WhiteStone received over \$2 million in donations from several different Masonic and Eastern Star funding sources. This amount represents an increase of over \$700,000 with all of the increase coming from two major estate distributions. Although we recognize that we cannot rely on major wills and estates each year,

it has become evident that we can continue to put faith in our fraternities to continue to generously support of this community. Blue lodges contributed \$379,862 up from 2007's \$372,498. The Masonic Foundation contributed \$139,147, Grand Lodge \$16,865, and other Masonic bodies \$1,525, for a total of \$537,399.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the following lodges for exceeding \$10,000 in annual contributions: Bula 409, Temple 676, Semper Fidelis 680, and Cary 198; and the following lodges for exceeding \$5,000: William T. Bain 231, Kilwinning 64, Gate City 694, Long Creek 205, Mint Hill 742, Hiram 40, West Gate 738, Andrew Jackson 576, Fellowship 687, Clemmons 755, Allen Graham 695, Millbrook 97, Casar 579, and Catawba Valley 217.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank the following who exceeded the annual \$25 per member goal for 2008 (the lodges in bold met this goal in 2007 as well): William T. Bain 231, Temple 676, Raleigh 500, **Clemmons 755**, Bula 409, Semper Fidelis 680, **Selma 320**, **Kilwinning 64**, **Fellowship 687**, **Mill Creek 125**, **Cary 198**, **Vandora 745**, Casar 579, **Garner 701**, **Green Level 277**, **Jerusalem 95**, **Henry F. Grainger 412**, **Millbrook 97**, **Mingo 206**, **Ararat 558**, **Archer 165**, **Long Creek 205**, James B. Green 735, Wilson 712, Creedmoor 499, Statesville 27, **Person 113**, Hiram 40, John H. Mills 624, and **Andrew Jackson 576**.

Where do all the contributions go? One hundred percent of the money raised goes directly to subsidize the approximately 68 fraternal members (41 of which were sponsored by a Masonic lodge, 27 sponsored by an Eastern Star chapter) who cannot afford to pay the total cost of their care. The estimated cost for these fraternal members approximately \$1.3 million; this is above and beyond what these residents pay out of pocket or through Federal or State funding sources.

On behalf of the residents, staff and families of WhiteStone, once again, thank you for all the hard work and dedication all of the lodges and chapters do throughout the year to benefit the community. As always, if you have any questions or need more information about the home, feel free to call me at (336) 547-2992 or email me at <mkolada@liveatwhitestone.org>.

Masters Lodge features bakeless bake sale

RALEIGH — Adrian Hatfield, senior warden of Masters 754, recently introduced his lodge to a new variation on an old fundraiser — the Bakeless Bake Sale. Here's how he explained that to his lodge.

"So what is a bakeless bake sale? You are invited to NOT bake a cake, pie, cookies, or brownies. You do NOT have to find the recipe. You do NOT have to shop for the ingredients. You do NOT have to mix. You do NOT have to cook. You do NOT have to cut. You do NOT have to wrap. You do NOT have to wash dishes. You do NOT have to clean up your kitchen. Simply provide a check to Masters Lodge for whatever amount you would expect to pay for cookies, a cake, or a pie. Your donation will then be divided between the Masonic charities.

"You can expect to receive a letter soon, explaining the bakeless bake sale and your "roll" in "raising dough" for our Masonic Charities. You can rest assured; all this "bread" will be put to good use!"

The bakeless, and we might add fat-free/no-calorie, event brought our charities more than \$1,000 in less than a month of not baking. — *The Trowel*

MILEPOSTS



BISCOE — On November 1, Biscoe 437 held its Annual Ladies' and Awards Night. Biscoe Lodge members John F. Allen, left, and John C. Munn, right, received their Veteran's Emblems for 50 years Masonic membership. — Carl W. Brown



GREENSBORO — DeMolay Chevaliers joined together for dinner in Greensboro on November 1. It was one of several observances that took place across the state. Pictured in the front row are 50-year members (from left) Wayne Willard, Edd Little, Buddy Nance, and Percy Sudsbury. In the back are Chuck Rouse, Tony Glidewell, Allan Spain Jr., Matt Hunt, Fritz Falkson, and Frank Silber. — Frank Silber



MOUNT GILEAD — Blackmer 127's Ivey Bernard "I. B." Shive, right, recently received his Veterans Emblem for 50 years lodge membership. Shive was the principal of Mount Gilead High School for many years and saw many members of the lodge through their years in school. Don Thompson, left, presented him the Award. — Larry Thompson



CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA — One hundred residents of Bishop Gadsden Retirement Community were on hand November 13 to see fellow resident Tom Mann, right, get his Diamond Jubilee Award for 60 years Masonic membership. Mann is a member of Phalanx 31 in Charlotte. Mann's pin and certificate were presented for our Grand Lodge by South Carolina District Deputy Grand Master Herman Resch, left. Resch was accompanied by eleven Masons who are Mann's fellow residents. — Kimberly Farfone



ROBBINSVILLE — On November 11, James Kelly Hooper was recognized for his 58 years as a certified lecturer. First certified March 14, 1950, the Robbinsville 672 Mason has the longest tenure in the history of the certified lecture program. Hooper is a four-time district deputy grand lecturer and four-time past master of his lodge. Front, from left, are DDGL Jack Long, Hooper, Board of Custodians Secretary Mack Sigmon, and DDGM Jim Hyde. — Mack Sigmon



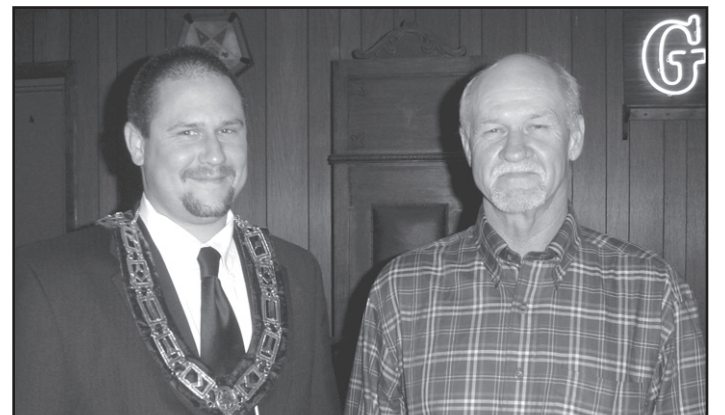
CASAR — On November 23, several members of Casar 579 traveled to Haven in the Hills retirement community to present J.T. McNeilly his Veterans Emblem for 50 years Masonic membership. Casar Master Eric Newton made the presentation. Seen, from left, are McNeilly's grandson Kevin McNeilly, McNeilly, and his son Boyd McNeilly, all Masons. — Eric Newton



WASHINGTON — Just a year after he became a Mason himself, David Rowe Jr., left, raised his father, David Rowe, to a Master Mason November 17. Thirty-five were on hand for the third degree at Washington 675. — John Riffert



MOUNT HOLLY — The Ham family has been active in the Masonic lodge for three generations. On October 6, Mount Holly 544 raised another member of the family, Jeffery Ham. Not surprisingly, relatives were on hand for the festivities and took up several of the officer stations. Seen here, from left, are Todd Ham (father), Jeffery Ham (newest Mason in the family), Joe Ham (grandfather), Brad Ham (uncle), Joey Ham (older brother), and Chris Ham (cousin). — Ray Willard



NEWPORT — It was just in July of 2008 that Ashton Pittman, left, was raised in Newport 706. He must have provided a good role model around the house. On November 17, Ashton raised his father, Clyde Pittman, right, in the same lodge. — Wray Thomas

Recognition celebrated at State Capitol

Masons announce a new era

By Ric Carter

RALEIGH—It was not necessary that Masons gather or that anything be signed. We had already taken a step toward the post-racial society we hear so much about these days. It was a done deal when our Grand Lodge passed its resolution September 19, 2008 recognizing our Prince Hall Grand Lodge counterparts. But, on November 21, the State Capitol was the Masonic place to be for the very much needed celebration of the normalization of relations between the two largest fraternal organizations in North Carolina. Several hundred Masons were there. Prince Hall Grand Lodge passed the resolution in 2004.

The setting was most appropriate. It was our Grand Lodge that on July 4, 1833 set the cornerstone of the Capitol. We returned 100 years later to rededicate the edifice. The grounds are a Masonic history gallery with most of the statues on the grounds being of Masons — George Washington, Governors Aycock and Vance, Presidents Polk and Johnson and Jackson. In the rotunda of the old home of our legislature, are statues of Washington and a square and compasses decorated bust of Samuel Johnston, our first grand



Clockwise, from above, the Brotherhood Celebration began with a procession of grand lodge officers, Masons filled the balcony, Grand Master Fitch and Cash sign the compact on the historic table, and Prince Hall visited the signing.

Ric Carter photos

see COMPACT, page 5

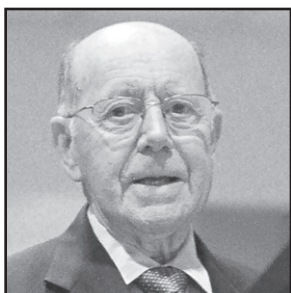


In this issue of The NC Mason



page 1

Grand Lodge officers were installed in November.



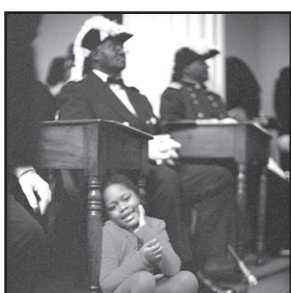
page 2

Max Smith is named Harris-Dudley honoree.



page 4

Grand Master's district Meeting schedule is set.



page 8

Two grand lodges celebrate recognition.

NON-PROFIT ORG. AUTO U.S. POSTAGE PAID OXFORD, NC 27565 PERMIT NO. 56

NORTH CAROLINA The Mason



Volume 134 Number 1

January/February 2009



Rice is new grand master

OXFORD — North Carolina's newest grand master is a graduate of our own Masonic Home for Children, as good an advertisement for its work as one could find. He is seen here at the altar at the beginning of his installation in prayer with installing Chaplain and Prince Hall Grand Master Toby Fitch. Installing Marshals Don Sizemore and Tommy Jones are at his side. For details and more pictures of the installation, go to page one in this issue of The North Carolina Mason.

Ric Carter photo